[Ibuki Satsuki's Comic Collection]

Alt Title: 【伊吹五月条漫集】

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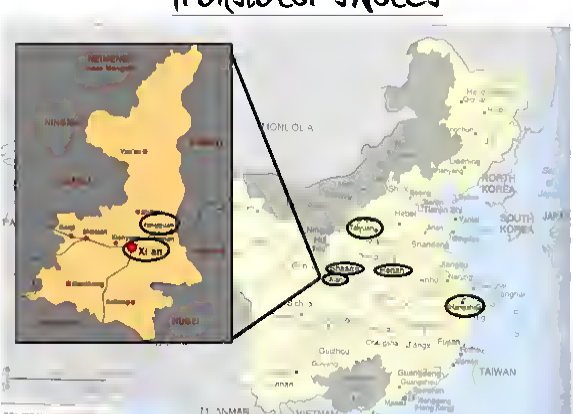
*Artwork by 伊吹五月 (Ibuki Satsuki)

In the year I was born,
spring came especially late in Hangzhou.
Everyone in my household
Said it was because I was destined
to fall into true love.
"Fengshui"
IF FENG1 comes to be
"FENG" means "LATE"
WAIT, LIU XUE-XING!
Th-that's not good at all.
XU FENG!
XU FENG!
FANG CHI!
WHAT? WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THAT, AUNTIE?
I'VE ALWAYS TOLD YOU NOT TO LISTEN TO THOSE RIDICULOUS RUMORS, AND YOU'RE STILL LISTENING TO THEM?!
*XUE MEANS "TO FALL/SNOW"
LISTEN, I DON'T DO FENGSHUI, BUT I'VE STUDIED ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT YOUR NAME HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH FENGSHUI.
AH... RIGHT...
LITTLE LADIES, DID YOU WEREN'T MEANT TO BE UP LATE?
WHERE'S THE MASTER OF THE HOUSE?
HE'S VERY BUSY RIGHT NOW, SO I'M HANDLING HIS DONATIONS.
HE WON'T BE DOING ANY MORE DONATIONS AFTER WORKING WITH YOU!
AHH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT KNIFE IN BROAD DAYS?!
MR. XU'S FAMILY HAS BEEN CURSED BY A DEMON FOR 3 GENERATIONS. SO I'M PERFORMING A CEREMONY CLEANSE.
MY ASSISTANT'S UP NORTH!
I'M MEDITATION CLEANSING.
LOOK LIU XUE-XING! WHEN WE'RE DONE HERE, WE'LL BE STOPPING BY YOUR HOUSE FOR A SPELL. SO BE PREPARED FOR A DIFFERENT CLEANSE.
THEN...LET ME HERD YOU LEAVE.
.....
XU FENG! I'VE BEEN CAUGHT UP WITH YOU!
MY FAMILY'S BUSINESS! WELL, WE ARGUABLY DON'T HAVE ONE.
YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR YOUR FIRST DAY AT WORK! I KNOW YOU'RE EXCITED, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUN! FLYING LANTERN, THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS MEDIA COMPANY!
PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO DR. CHAN...?
Ah?
LISTENING WILL NOT HELP YOU. WE HAVE TO LEAVE NOW!
HURRY, PLEASE TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF!
*CHINESE CHEF'S KNIFE. *ANOTHER TERMINOLOGY FOR THE THREADING CUT. THIS IS THE BIG BONE. NY CARTILAGE SURROUNDING AT TIMES.
On the 15th year of the Xiaohua* Era,
Tang Pass fell
EVEN IF WE HAVEN'T CHOSEN OUR SIDE, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO LET IT GO.
SHE DIED.
SHE DIED.
HEY!
WHEN A MAN'S BEEN DEAD FOR 17 YEARS, IT'S NOT THAT SHOCKING THAT HE'S FINALLY DIED OF OLD AGE, IS IT?
HONGGE WORE THOSE CLOTHES ON THE DAY HE DIED. THAT WAS ACTUALLY THE DAY BEFORE HE DIED. HE WAS "PERIODICAL" THAT DAY.
SO WHAT IF HE DIED THAT WAY? I DON'T CARE.
DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO'D BOTHER WITH MY BODY.
"BUT NOT SO FAST, XIE!
TAPA!
WHAT THE HELL?! WHAT DON'T I REALIZE?
I KNOW THAT YOU BELONGED TO THE SAME SECT AS HIM. BUT WHY DID YOU WORK WITH THE ENEMY?
YOU'D ABUSE SOMEONE WHO'S DEAD AND CAN'T DEFEND HIMSELF?
FANG CHI!
FANG CHI!
FANG CHI!
I'LL FLING YOU OFF THE MOUNTAIN!
YOU'RE DEAD...
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SHAMELESS?!
.....
THREE JEWELS TO ALL WHO ENTER THE GATE OF BUDDHA. MAY YOU ONLY RISE IF YOU FALL DOWN SEVEN TIMES.
I'M SORRY, I'LL BE GOING NOW. MY COMPANY HAS ALREADY SENT SOMEONE TO TAKE MY PLACE.
NO, YOU'RE NOT. I'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER CHANCE. WORK TO DO!
WAIT, THAT'S YOUR FAVORITE WEAPON!
Wait
[She's hurting inside, Can't]

Translator's Notes



Hangzhou(杭州) — Capital of Zhejiang Province and one of China's Seven Ancient Capital Cities. Located on the east coast of China.

Luoyang(洛阳) — Capital of Henan Province and one of China's Seven Ancient Capital Cities. It was the capital for 9 dynasties over a period that spanned 1,500 years. (PS: The Shaolin Temple is easily accessible from here)

Chang'an(长安) — Capital of 13 ancient dynasties and one of China's Seven Ancient Capital Cities. Today, it is known as Xi'An. The Chang'an of the Tang Dynasty was a highly prosperous international metropolis that was unmatched in its monumental scale

Hulao Pass(虎牢关) — "Tiger Trap Pass", a mountain pass northwest of Xingyang, Henan Province. Known for the Battle of Hu Lao Pass, a fictional battle described in Luo Guanzhong's historical novel Romance of the Three Kingdoms.

Tong Pass(潼关) — Located in Tongguan County, Shaanxi Province. During the Middle Ages, it was an important chokepoint that protected Xi'an (Chang'an) and the surrounding Guanzhong area from outside attack.

TAKE FIVE: TRANSLATOR'S CORNER

THIS IS YOUR CHIEF TRANSLATOR, UOU, SPEAKING. AS THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME CONFUSION OVER THE SERIES IN GENERAL, I'VE DECIDED TO TAKE TIME OUT TO SET SOME THINGS STRAIGHT.

FIRSTLY, SOME BACKGROUND INFO. ISCC STARTED OUT AS A BUNCH OF WEBCOMICS THAT THE ARTIST DREW FOR FUN. SINCE IT WASN'T MEANT TO BE A PUBLISHED SERIES, MANY OF THE EARLIER CHAPTERS ARE JUST...REALLY RANDOM, HENCE THE LACK OF A CONVENTIONAL NARRATIVE STRUCTURE, THE ABRUPT SHIFTS OF POVS, YOU GET MY GIST. (IT DOES GET EASIER TO FOLLOW AFTER A WHILE, SO PLEASE BE PATIENT!)

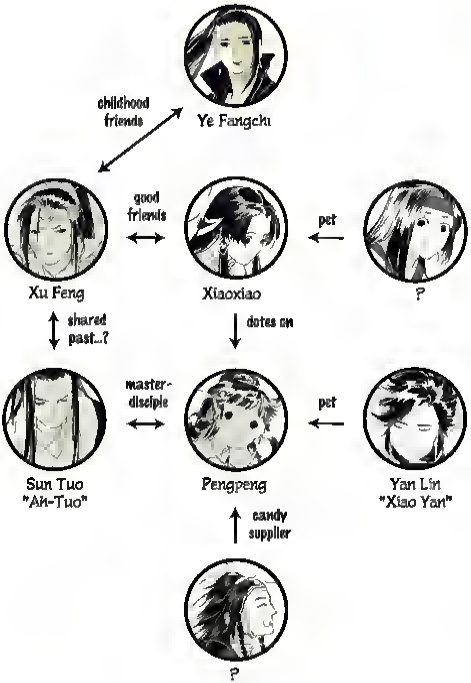
THE ARTIST DIDN'T GIVE THESE COMICS A NAME, AND AT SOME POINT, IT BECAME KNOWN AS "IBUKI SATSUKI'S COMIC COLLECTION". IN 2015, ITS FIRST CHAPTER WAS PUBLISHED ON MANHUA.WEIBO.COM, AND IT'S ONLY GOTTEN MORE AND MORE POPULAR EVER SINCE. THE LATER CHAPTERS OF ISCC WERE COMPILED INTO A SERIES TITLED "SHAN HE REN JIAN" (山河人间). PHYSICAL COPIES OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED MANHUA (VOL. 1-5) WERE AVAILABLE FOR ONLINE PURCHASE FOR A TIME. IT STANDS TO REASON THAT FURTHER ROUNDS OF PRE-ORDERING WILL OPEN UP AGAIN IN THE FUTURE, IF ITS POPULARITY KEEPS UP.

I NOTICED THAT THERE'S A FAIR BIT OF UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE CHARACTERS AND HOW THEY RELATE TO THE STORY, SO I'VE PUT TOGETHER A RELATIONSHIP CHART AND CHARACTER BIO TO HELP OUT THOSE WHO'RE FEELING LOST. DO NOTE THAT THE STUFF YOU'LL SEE BELOW ARE ***ENTIRELY FAN-MADE***, MEANING THEY'RE NOT TRANSLATIONS OF THE REAL THING. I APOLOGIZE IN ADVANCE IF THEY'RE LACKING IN ANY WAY.

ENJOY!~

Relationship Chart

*for Chapter 43 onwards



Character Profiles

Pengpeng
芃芃

Ten-thousand Flowers Sect disciple. She came to Yanmen Pass with her Master to deliver medical supplies

Yan Lin ("Xiao Yan")
燕琳（「小燕」）

Soldier of the Ashen Cloud Black-armored Elite Corps. He was recently appointed as Pengpeng's bodyguard

Sun Tuo ("Ah-Tuo")
孙蓐（阿蓐）

Ten-thousand Flowers Sect disciple. A physician who has come to Yanmen Pass to deliver medical supplies. Pengpeng's master

Xu Feng
徐风

Military Veteran from the Heavenly Strategies Sect. She appears to be Yan Lin's superior

Xiaoxiao
筱筱

Ten-thousand Flowers Sect disciple. Currently a teacher in a private school. Likes painting

P

A fool(?) from the Beggars' Sect. He has recently befriended the kids at Xiaoxiao's school. Likes Xiaoxiao

Ye Fangchi
叶芳驰

A longtime friend of Xu Feng who first appears in Chapter 52. She's from the Hidden Blade Sect

P

Yan Lin's friend, and Pengpeng's candy supplier. He's a good-hearted lad

Note: This series features **multiple protagonists**. Pengpeng is one of the MCs, but not THE MC. (there isn't one). Also, please refer to the glossary at the end of Chapter 2 for the full list of Jian Wang 3 Sects.